

**Clean & Beautiful Committee**  
**August 3, 2011**

**Committee Members**

**Present:**

Jeff Deelstra  
Pat Deelstra  
Brenda Clark  
Karin Alexander  
Brian Blank  
Mathew Lovato

**Excused Members:**

Lisa Rene Jones

**Absent Committee Members:**

Kate Duff  
Carolyn Workman

**Guests:**

Sandy Silletto  
Darrick Porter  
Jody Rushton-Porter  
Misty Smith

**Staff Members Present:**

Craig Thomas  
Cathie Alberico

Brenda Clark asked to invite Gregg & Dayna Palacios to the October meeting, as prospective new members.

Brenda contacts all of her winners to invite them to the reception.

Jeff Deelstra brought the meeting to order at 5:12 pm. Introductions were made.

Guests introduced themselves as they told how they found out about the committee, and why they would like to serve on the committee.

Dr. Misty Smith teaches at the College of Pharmacy at the University of Utah. She has lived in WVC for about five years. She is originally from the Pittsburgh area, and lived in South Carolina for graduate school. Last year her yard was an award winner. This past summer she and her husband, Malcolm judged. In her neighborhood it has become quite a competition among the homeowners to beautify their yards, and has created community pride. They have also done volunteer efforts in the small park in their area.

Darrick Porter, and his wife Jody Rushton, who is Corey Rushton's sister, wanted to learn how to win the Clean & Beautiful yard award. Darrick has lived in WVC for his entire life. Jody Rushton Porter has lived in WVC her entire life, is a graduate of Hunter High School. She works for the state of Utah. Jody approached Corey and he recommended attending the committee meetings. She would really like to win the award but they aren't quite there yet.

Karin Alexander pointed out that once you join you the committee you couldn't be a winner, which brought a lot of laughter to the table. You shouldn't judge your own area, because it can cause jealousy and problems among neighbors.

Staff is building a database to track winning yards. The committee expressed concerns about how to include or exclude past winners, and perhaps changing our guidelines.

Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of June 1, 2011. Pat Deelstra seconded the motion. The motion passed all in favor.

## Subcommittee Reports

### Small Yearly Beautification Projects

Matt reports: working on two projects.

#### 1.) the planters at Decker Lake

The planters do not have irrigation, it was not properly taken care of during the winter and the County has no intention to run new irrigation lines to them. Craig suggested that the committee could do a clean up project on the planters. We would not be able to do any new plantings. Sandy Silletto suggested that we set a date to work there. Matt expressed concern about contacting the County to get permission, when we spoke to the County, they would welcome anything we would want to do, as long as it doesn't require them to do any new or additional maintenance. They would really appreciate us cleaning up the planters.

Saturday, September 10, 2011 was selected as the date for the clean up project of the planters at Decker Lake Blvd. and Parkway Blvd., across the street from Franklin Covey; the coordinates would be approximately

2200 W Parkway Blvd and 2550 South Decker Lake Blvd. Meet at 9:00AM. Matt suggested shovels-flat and round, gas powered trimmers and weed eaters, pruners, perhaps weed killer. Matt has a truck so he will haul off any garbage. Craig let Matt know if there were any expenses to let staff know. Matt thought trash bags and perhaps some decorative rock could be used.

There was a discussion about various sources and prices for decorative rocks. Strang Excavating and Sunset Rock were mentioned. More research needs to be done. Craig inquired who was on Matt's committee, and to hold a separate planning meeting for the planters. Matt was more in favor of getting the cleanup project going. It was suggested to complete the cleanup and get an idea of how the committee could improve the site.

Karin inquired if any plants that may not require a lot of water have been considered, perhaps cactus, for the planters. Jeff added that in his experience anything planted in a pot or planter requires lots of care and a good water supply.

2.) the other project was the roundabout at the Cultural center, Matt, hasn't had any updates about road construction in the area. **Craig is unsure of the status of the roundabout; he will find out, construction on the 3300 South project will begin any day now.**

Karin also suggested some kind of rock design and perhaps a piece of sculpture, from a local school, or the community college, for the roundabout. Jeff inquired if anyone had a line on that type of thing. Craig thought it was a great idea, but suggested we get a clean up project going first. We should pursue the sculpture idea in the future.

Sandy suggested another small yearly project, a lot of her neighbors have voiced concern about this area and a former member of C & B also suggested it for a project. It is eastbound on 3500 South and 2200 West. It is east of Café Sylvester, as you exit off of I-215 on to 3500 South; eastbound; it is an odd shaped barrier between 3500 South and 2200 West that is neglected, covered with weeds and trash. It is not very attractive being so close to an entrance into West Valley City. Matt would be glad to consider this.

Craig may have another project. The Tower West Neighborhood Watch group had approached him about a clean up project on a piece of property at 6400 West and about 4300 South, the neighborhood east of 6400 West. They have a budget, a plan and design for this yard. They have contacted several different stores, but they need a conduit for the donations to come through the City, and can piggyback on our tax exemption status. Pat suggested that they submit a plan to the committee. Craig had invited them to attend tonight's meeting, he was surprised they did not attend.

### Urban Gardens

Jeff asked Sandy if she had anything to report. She has no progress to report now; she is going to commit to some type of Urban Garden plan. Sandy will be working with Schools of Success at Kennedy Jr. High and Hillsdale Elementary, and she will contact Margaret Peterson to inquire as to what kind of support she can lend to her efforts. Sandy would appreciate a committee effort towards this type of project. Jeff also reminded us that we could invite anyone who is interested to work on a subcommittee; they don't have to be committee members. Sandy has visited Kate Duff's community garden, she thought they were amazing; Kate has done some fantastic work.

Kate has joined the committee but hasn't attended on a regular basis so Cathie will mail out agenda's and minutes to her, she may not be aware that we are sending them via email.

### Education

The subcommittee has not met lately, because of the time involved to judge winning yards, caring for the daylilies, WestFest etc. Owen has all of the pictures from our award winners on the City web site.

No upcoming events to report on.

The National Night Out against Crime activities and parties were discussed. Craig is the go to guy for block parties and NNO parties. He

can help coordinate the different aspects and is an award winning coordinator for WVC; we are lucky to have him.

## Membership Vacancies

Presently we have four openings on the Committee. Brenda wanted to invite a couple that won her water wise award this year; they had expressed interest in the Committee. We will invite them to the October meeting. A husband and wife team fills two positions on the committee. Craig said that the Committee consists of 13 members and two City staff members for a total of 15, and subcommittee members are welcome as unofficial members. Craig instructed the guest to contact City staff by email or a letter to state that you would like to join the committee.

One of the guests asked what do we do in the winter? The Committee decorates a **Holiday Tree** that is on the outside of City Hall. It has not been used for **two** years because of the Trax construction project. The Committee, purchased, decorated and hung wreaths on the outside of City Hall for December 2010. We also decorated an award-winning wreath for the Cultural Center. The wreath activities were a lot of fun.

A question was asked how much time each member spends on Committee activities? We spend one hour a month at meetings, the yard judging takes quite a bit of time, maybe eight to 10 hours, WestFest, NNO Kickoff event; each event had sign up sheets so you can commit to what you want to do, a yearly retreat that is a few extra hours, averaged out it might be one to four hours a month. There is always advanced notice of activities.

## September Retreat

The retreat is a planning meeting, discussing projects, review the mission statement, review the budget of about \$8,000.00, form subcommittees to research project ideas and costs. It is held at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. We will have a working lunch break. Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 9:00 A. M. to 2:00 P. M. was selected for the retreat, this will serve as the September meeting also. Craig requested that members be thinking about how they would like to use the budget this year, if you have special projects or events keep them in

mind to discuss at the retreat. We will discuss this summers yard awards and presentation ceremony. The West Valley Journal is looking to interview an award winner, if you have any one in mind please let staff know.

Craig informed the Committee that Owens's duties have changed and he will no longer be working with the Committee. Karin Alexander suggested a thank you card for Owen from the Committee. Pat said she would get a card.

Having no further business to discuss, Jeff adjourned the meeting.